



# TOKEN HUNTER



ANA

Volume No. 1 No. 17

A publication of the NATIONAL UTAH TOKEN SOCIETY  
P.O. Box 510200 Salt Lake City, Utah 84151

Dedicated to the  
of

nd. Preservation

May

We'd like to especially thank Phil Lavgorgna for obtaining the interesting slide presentation on Gold Hill that we saw last month in our meeting. Phil really contributes a lot to our meetings and we want him to know how much we appreciate him.

Since last month, an article came out about Gold Hill in 'Lost Treasure' magazine. Bruce Robinson sent it to me and I know you will find it as fascinating as I did. I quote from the article.

"Q: Do you have the story on a lost flask of gold (weighing about 100 pounds) in Tooele County, Utah? Tellman A Bell, Ogden, Ut.

A: This little-known cache of gold in the town of Gold Hill (nearly a ghost town), in Tooele County, is almost certainly still there. Back during World War II, an old prospector known only as John lived on the north side of town. As he aged, John began losing his mind. After a while his actions became so violent that the sheriff was called and John was taken to Tooele for psychiatric treatment.

When he became rational, he told the sheriff he had \$200 in a bank in Ely, Nev., and asked the sheriff to get it and give it to a friend for safekeeping. When the transfer of the \$200 was finished, John insisted on returning to his shack to get what he called a "flask of gold." He claimed he had found it in the desert and that it had been stolen from a smelter.

The sheriff and hospital officials assumed the flask was just a figment of John's imagination, so he was left in the institution for treatment. A short time later, the sheriff met an employee of the Utah Highway Department, who told him of a visit he had made to John's shack some time before the old man went crazy. John was trying to open a large flask and told the highway employee he had to leave. The employee noticed wheelbarrow tracks coming from the old man's pickup truck parked near the shack. The sheriff and highway employee made several searches around the shack but could not locate the gold-filled flask.

About two years later, John was released from the mental institution. He got his \$200 and left town. The shack was watched but the old man never returned. It is believed that in his disturbed mental condition, John probably forgot about the flask.

Several searches have been made for this flask but I have no report of it being found. It weighed about 100 pounds, so the old man didn't transport it too far because he had to use a wheelbarrow to carry it."





!!! R E M E M B E R !!!

Our next N.U.T.S. meeting will be held on Thursday evening, May 26, at 7:15 p.m. at the Redwood Multi-purpose Center. Our guest speaker for the evening will be Val Gass, an expert on metal detectors. He will be answering any questions you might have about various machines. He sells both White and Garrett detectors and specializes in these brand names. Bring your machines along with you if you have any problems working them and I'm sure Val can give you some invaluable pointers.

Also, Harry Campbell will be on hand to take rubbings of any tokens that you have that are not listed in his book. Harry's book will go to the press before too long, hopefully this fall, so he is anxious to get as many new rubbings as possible.

Make plans to attend our June 23rd meeting. It's one that you won't want to miss! Harry Campbell has arranged to have George Thompson come and speak to us about his new book, "Some Dreams Die". George will be happy to answer any questions you might have about the stories, legends, and ghost towns he has written about. It will be mainly a question and answer period, so write down your questions so that you will have them ready. Also, Mr. Thompson will gladly autograph any books that you have, so bring them along! If you don't, as yet, own a copy of his book, Harry is certain that George will bring some with him.

During our June meeting, Harry will also be taking rubbings. After George Thompson has finished speaking to us, Harry will take some time to tell us a little about his new book and some interesting things he has learned about tokens. Thank you, Harry, for all of the research you have done and the many, many hundreds of hours you have spent so that we could enjoy our hobby so much!

Don't forget to bring your traders to the meetings. That way, each of us will have the opportunity to build our collections!

Plan to spend the Memorial Day Weekend with us at Kelton and Terrace, west of Promontory Point. We are keeping our fingers crossed that the weather will be just glorious! If you can't spend the entire three days, come for one or two. See you there! If you have any questions, call Bruce Robinson, 967-2585.

Our June outing will be held June 18th and we'll be heading for Homansville and the entire Eureka area. In July we'll be combining our club picnic and outing at Forest City, by Timpanogus, up American Fork Canyon.

One of our out-of state members, Ray Bows, sent me a letter stating that he puts out about four mail bid auctions per year with lots of medals, coins, tokens and paper money, both U.S. and foreign. If you are interested, send four envelopes, self-addressed with 37¢ stamps of each one to Bows and Mallett, 10610 Bridgeport Way, SW Tacoma, Wash. 98499.



My husband, Harold Franke, and I recently spent an evening with a delightful gentleman and an avid token collector, David Freed. What a beautiful, fascinating, collection this man has! David is always on the look-out for rare pieces, and he has tokens from Utah towns that haven't been on the map for years and years! He became interested in tokens and started collecting them in 1972 or 1973, and since then he spends a lot of time corresponding with token and coin collectors and dealers across the country. I'm sure that David has one of the largest and most valuable collections anywhere. If you ever get the chance to see his books, don't pass up the opportunity! You'll never forget it!

I hope David won't mind me printing this, but he is a young-looking, active, 74-year-old! He has won numerous tennis awards, and is still giving of his precious time, teaching young people to play tennis at a club near his home. It would truly be an honor to be taught by a man with such outstanding ability. David loves teaching his sport, and volunteers his time.

He and his wife, Blanche, have three lovely daughters and thirteen grandchildren! David told me that his wife enjoys tending her grandchildren while he pursues his hobbies. Not only does he collect tokens, he is also a Deltiologist! He collects antique post cards! He has one valuable card with a portrait of Brigham Young with twenty-one of his wives. His collection includes several "Hold-to-the-light" postcards. When held up to a light, the windows are illuminated.

David recently obtained a nice token, The Elite Bar, West 2nd So., good for \$1.00 in trade. He was kind enough to make some rubbings for me so that I could share them with you.



B.F.O. Elks No. 85 good for 10¢ in trade



C.E. Richardson Minala, Utah G/F 5¢ in trade



I liked this one. 11th ward co-op good for 5¢ cigar or candy!!!